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Acting Chief, [] Office

26 October 1949

Chief, Contact Division

Nicholas W. Poppe

REFERENCE: [] Memo No. 936 to Headquarters, 4 October 1949

1. We have been informed by the General Counsel's Office that, apparently Dr. Poppe is paying withholding tax as a non-resident alien, whereas he should be paying as a resident alien. This would seem to explain the inordinately high figure deducted from his salary. Perhaps if you explain this to Poppe he will be able to iron it out himself with the Revenue people. As to his paying taxes as a single person, we are informed that as his sons are over 21 years of age, they are expected to be able to take care of themselves. This is the identical treatment accorded to Americans. The fact that they are unemployed is beyond our control and seems to be their own fault since they refused employment in coal mines.

2. The question of his sons' immigration to the US has been somewhat clarified by a letter just received from Dr. Poppe, telling us that the boys received a call from a "gentleman of an office engaged in certain activities" (presumably an officer of British Intelligence) who reinstated them in their original names. We have approached the General Counsel again, and have been informed that they have two possible alternatives: (a) They can take their places on the USSR quota, which is already two years behind schedule, or (b) they can get themselves re-established as DP's and come in under the DP quota. To do this, however, they will have to travel back to Germany and ask to be reinstated as DP's by IRO, Frankfurt. There is also a probability that either the General Counsel or OPC can help them to regain eligibility as DP's in spite of the fact that they were not in Germany on 1 January 48 and would not thus be normally acceptable under the DP Act.

3. In order to help them, the General Counsel has asked that we obtain full particulars of their original investment in pseudonyms, and all details of British interest in the boys, including the British position in allowing them to leave the UK and return to Germany, and the story on the visit of the officer who gave them back their real names. Dr. Poppe said in his letter that he would receive these details from the boys soon, and pass them on to us. However, we have told him that it would be better if he dealt through you in all business matters. We told him this before he went to Seattle, but he has not apparently taken us too seriously. A word from you, in addition to our letter, may bring better results.

LYMAN B. KIRKPATRICK

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